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The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 40

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 20, 2003

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Recent showers and thunderstorms remind local citizens of past floods



The Pea River was well within sight of motorists traveling across the Pea River bridge Monday, March 17, on U.S. Highway 84 in Elba. Earlier in the day, the river stage was recorded at more than 15 feet with rains expected throughout the day, and although Tuesday brought a bit of sunshine to the area, the rain was expected to return again Wednesday with a pretty good chance it would stick around for Thursday and Friday as well. It is important to note, however, that the river is still well below flood stage despite being at a higher level than normal.

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Rain, rain and more rain, that has been the way things have gone in Elba and Coffee County lately as each and every day the area seems to experience some sort of down-pour whether light or heavy.

This pattern of daily rain not only has managed to soak the ground around the area, but it has served as a reminder of years past. Local citizens remember quite well the dates of March 8 and March 17 as each marks the anniversary of a flood.

Saturday, March 8, was the fifth anniversary of the 1998 flood of Elba while Monday, March 17, was the 13th anniversary of the 1990 flood.

So, what happened this year on these days?

It rained! And, the river rose just a little bit more.

It has become the norm in these parts to keep a close eye on the old Pea River when the area plays victim to above average amounts of rainfall, and the past few weeks have been no exception to the rule.

The river stage has seemed to steadily increase as the rains continue; however, the rise has not been an overwhelming one as it was in 1990 and again in 1998.

This week began with the anniversary of the 1990 flood, and the rain continued to come. Those traveling across the Pea River bridge on U.S. Highway 84 did not have to look hard to find the raging waters as the river measured in at more than 15 feet Monday morning. Tuesday brought a change in the weather as the sun made an unusual appearance, but forecasters did not allow anyone to get too excited over the clear skies. The chance of rain was expected to increase again by Wednesday morning with pretty high chances throughout the remainder of the week.

And, with this time of year being such a memorable one for the people of Elba, maybe it was fitting to have rainy weather. Otherwise, one local citizen would not have been overheard saying he couldn't "remember a March 17 when it didn't rain."

Congressman Everett reacts to President Bush's address on Iraq

Following President Bush's address to the nation Monday evening, March 17, Congressman Terry Everett issued the following statement in response:

"Tonight, President Bush made one of the most important speeches of his Presidency. He informed the nation and the world that diplomacy has failed to force Saddam Hussein to give up his weapons of mass destruction. He issued an ultimatum to Saddam to disarm and leave Iraq or face certain military action."

"I am fully supportive of the President's decision and agree that diplomacy has reached an end. It is regrettable that the French have used their veto threat to prevent a majority vote in the U.N. Security Council. I do not believe that Saddam will voluntarily surrender his control of Iraq. It will be only a matter of days before military action is taken."

"It is very likely that Saddam will try to launch preemptive attacks against his neighbors and I understand that he has already armed his troops with chemical shells. Saddam has been given a final warning. There will be no more Iraqi deceit and delay. The next step - war or peaceful resolution - is entirely up to Saddam Hussein."

In his address, Bush said, "The Security Council has not lived up to its responsibilities so we will rise to ours."

He gave Saddam Hussein and his two sons 48 hours to leave Iraq, and said if they chose to stay and remain in power, war would commence, "at a time of our choosing."

Elba Council approves new voting districts

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council again approved alcohol licenses for several who had completed all the legal paper work to get their official permits. Council members also saw a "new look" in the monthly list of bills payable and voted to accept a voting district redistricting plan which had been presented to the public in a non-attended public hearing the previous week.

A retail beer license was approved for James Gray, Jr.

The new voter redistricting plan approved by the council was necessary following the 2000 census which indicated an imbalance of voters in the five districts. With an official population of 4,185, a perfect voting district would include 837 citizens. The new districts actually vary from 812 to 849 residents.

Wholesale deliver licenses were approved for Adams Beverage Co. and United Distributing Co. a wholesale table wine delivery license was approved for D & A Wholesalers.

The new look in the bills payable now includes everything payable, including the monthly sales tax check (\$15,112.37) to the local schools, monthly payment to the garbage pick-up company (\$28,826.66), an \$8,803.65 transfer to the Elba Water and Electric Board and other routine monthly expenses. The total of all these payables for the month of February, excluding salaries, was \$125,341.49.

Mayor James Grimes noted the sales tax check presented to the school was higher than usual representing the school's portion of retail sales tax in the month of December, 2002.

The council approved the appointment of Myrna Cowen to another six year term on the Industrial Development Board.

Mayor Grimes reported that the City of Elba and Elba Industrial Development Board were in active discussions with someone interested in the city owned spec building located in the Airport Industrial Park. He explained however that the city is handicapped in such matters

and recommended title to the new building be transferred to the Industrial Board, which has more flexibility in negotiating such deals. The council approved the recommendation.

When asked by a council member exactly who would be paying the outstanding note on the building, Grimes said that matter was still an active part of the ongoing discussions.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth reported that the new NCIC was installed and working, as was the new back up generator.

There are still some problems with computer software, but that matter is being addressed.

Whitworth also noted the huge increase in drug arrests by local officials. Local officers arrested 50 on drug charges during February, compared to 24 the previous month. They also assisted several other agencies on other drug cases.

Alabama's quarter officially opens to circulation Monday, March 24

by Linda Hodge, Editor

It has been quite some time since the United States Mint began its 50 State Quarters Program, and the time has finally come for Alabama's quarter to hit circulation.

The Alabama quarter will be the second one released in 2003 and the 22nd in the entire program.

Being 22nd in line is certainly not by chance as the program follows the order in which each state was admitted into the Union. The State of Alabama was admitted Dec. 14, 1819.

The Alabama quarter features an image of Helen Keller with her name in English and in a reduced-size version of braille. This quarter will be the first circulating U.S. coin to feature braille.

The quarter also includes an Alabama long leaf pine branch as magnolias grace the sides of the design. A "Spirit of Courage" banner underlines the central image.

As a small child, an illness destroyed Helen Keller's sight and hearing. Despite these disabilities, she managed to learn to speak and read using the raised and manual alphabets, as well as Braille.

Miss Keller graduated with honors from Radcliffe and received a Bachelor of Arts degree. She published numerous books, articles, essays and was always an activist concerning social issues for the disabled persons and women.

A special ceremony will be

held in Tusculum, Ala., Monday, March 24, at 10 a.m. to officially open the Alabama quarter to circulation. This ceremony will be at the Ivy Green Estate, the birthplace of Helen Keller in 1880.

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Alabama 1819 quarter coin

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Area Happenings

ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL will hold kindergarten registration Friday, March 21, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Another registration will be held Wednesday, April 23, and Thursday, April 24, also from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Please bring birth certificate, social security card and a blue shot record for each child.

THE ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY will hold a book sale April 7-12 during regular operating hours. Any donations for the sale will be accepted.

THE COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION will meet Monday, March 24, 9 a.m. in the community room at the county complex in New Brockton.

HEALTH MATTERS Elizabeth Rowley, an occupational therapist, will speak Wednesday, March 26, 12 Noon, at the Elba Senior Citizens Building. The topic of discussion will be "Lymphedema and the way it affects people who are at risk, recognizing symptoms and treatment options." A complimentary lunch will be served. Reservations are required by calling 834-7163346.



THE ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE held its third ribbon cutting in as many weeks last Friday, March 14, when the State Farm Insurance Company held an open house for Elba's newest agent, Stan Houston. After completing an internship to become an agent, Houston officially took over the Elba office, formerly headed by Mike McGuire, in January. Since that time, he has relocated the business to the former Whitman Drug office on the 203 Bypass. The office offers a full line of insurance needs, and Houston and his staff are eager to serve the community. To highlight the open house event, the Elba Chamber of Commerce welcomed Houston to business Friday afternoon with the ribbon cutting ceremony. Those present for the cutting were (from left): Sam Cooper, Kaye Whitworth - executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce, Wayne Lawford, Junior Miss Elba Lyndsay Lawford, Cammie Kelley, Elmer Taylor, Anna Harrison, Future Little Miss Elba Sarah Bryan, Rev. John Baxter, Doris Matthews, Stanley Houston Sr., Elba Mayor James Grimes, Stan Houston - agent, Will Hardman - State Farm District office, Elba Houston, Kenneth Calhoun, Sandra Franklin - office manager, Little Miss Elba Brinley Williams, Herby McCall and Miss Elba Shay Johnson.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

One day last week we were struck with the thought of what a small part of God's physical world one human actually occupies. An elderly aunt died a couple of weeks ago and it was during the time we were clearing out her belongings that the thought struck. This aunt was a widow, no children and had been in nursing home for several years. She had sold her home a few years earlier and we had disposed of some household furniture from the storage bin from time to time since then. After donating her remaining clothing, furniture, dishes, etc., to a couple of charities, the pile was rather small, a birth certificate, marriage certificate, a few family pictures, her wedding rings and diamond ear rings, a high school diploma and graduation certificate from a 1930s business school and not much more. Our children knew her, as did most of the nieces and nephews, but to the generations which follow, she as most of us, will probably be just a footnote on the family tree. The message in all this is probably that we will be remembered by our deeds and not by the few material possessions we have accumulated in our short life here on earth.

It appears that the U. S. will be at war sooner, rather than later. In fact many locals are already predicting the exact time when American troops will launch attacks against Saddam and his forces. However, one such advisor has already been proven wrong. We were told on Monday that America would be at war before the sun came up Tuesday, in fact President Bush was probably going to use his Monday night address to America for the purpose of announcing the battle had begun. We are flag wavers and support our troops to the Nth degree. However, to our knowledge there is not one thing over there worth the life of a single American young man or woman unless it is to preserve democracy and expand freedom to more people.

We often disagree with the public statements from State Superintendent of Education Ed Richardson but not this week. He is urging a delay of any voting on additional local school taxes until the state legislature "does it's thing." We agree 100%. Several recent school tax votes have been badly beaten in diverse parts of Alabama. It could be said they were embarrassingly beaten and there is no benefit in spending tax dollars to increase that negative count.

Representatives pass key bills

Early into the second week of the Regular Session, the House of Representatives passed key bills pertaining to the Constitution, elections, domestic violence and the Ten Commandments. House Bill 60, sponsored by Majority Leader Ken Guinn, D. Carbon Hill, will direct the Code Commissioner to prepare and publish a recompilation of the 1901 Constitution.

"This is a big step in an on going challenge to better our Constitution," stated Guinn. "This effort will allow for easier reading and interpretation of the laws."

House Bill 113, also sponsored by Representative Guinn, will provide an automatic recount for elections decided within one-half of one percent.

"Voters are demanding that their votes be counted and be counted accurately," stated Representative Terry Spicer, D-

Elba. "This legislation responds to those demands and help to ensure the accuracy of our election system."

Additionally, House Bill 42, sponsored by Representative Joe Carothers, D. Dothan, will allow the provisions of a Protective Order from a judge to be honored in Alabama.

Likewise, Protective Orders issued in Alabama will be honored in other states.

"Domestic Violence will not be tolerated," said Representative Spicer. "People under such orders should be held accountable no matter where they live."

Finally, House Bill 112, sponsored by Representative Guinn, would allow the posting of the Ten Commandments in public school classrooms across the state. If passed by the Senate, this would have to be approved by voters in a statewide referendum.

Bridal Registry

Amanda Morgan & John Roberson

Reception - 5/3/03 Wedding - 6/7/03

Hope Tillery & Bo Boyd

Wedding 6/7/03

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USPS 171-080

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Soldiers need our support as war seems inevitable

by Linda Hodge, Editor

It has been my habit in the past to avoid expressing opinions about political matters, but the impending war with Iraq has become more than just a political issue for our nation. As this threat of war has increased, I continued to hope the reality would be different. Unfortunately, the president changed my outlook Monday evening with his address to the nation.

It became clear, through his words, that war is near, so near that it may have even begun by the time this article is printed.

Recently, there have been lots of people, especially celebrity figures, speaking out against the president and the idea of war, and although I feel every person

deserves an opportunity to express his/her opinion, now may not be the time to focus so intently on defying our nation's leader.

I don't want our country to be involved in war anymore than the next person, but at the same time, I understand the need for action.

Since that time, our main focus may have changed from Osama Bin Laden to Saddam Hussein, but the idea remains the same.

Men like Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein have

proven time and time again that they should be more worried about protecting those who are willing to fight to ensure their right to be able to stand in front of the camera and express an opinion, because people like Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein would love nothing more than to take our rights away. And instead of defying what our nation is preparing to do, these celebrities might think a little bit about offering words of consolation to the parents, wives, children and other family members of these soldiers.

War is a very scary thing, and I think we all should spend a little more time today and tomorrow in praying for the safety of our soldiers. We should pray that the Lord guides our president and other leaders to help them find the best path in this endeavor. And, we should pray that the road to peace is quickly paved so that human life can be spared and the children of today won't have to worry about terrorism tomorrow.

War seems inevitable today, but maybe we can find a better solution tomorrow and spend more time focusing on peace, love and happiness.

Wouldn't life be grand if we all could keep the outlook of a small child with our biggest worry being which toy we want to play with today?

"human shields" then maybe they should be more worried about protecting those who are willing to fight to ensure their right to be able to stand in front of the camera and express an opinion, because people like Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein would love nothing more than to take our rights away. And instead of defying what our nation is preparing to do, these celebrities might think a little bit about offering words of consolation to the parents, wives, children and other family members of these soldiers.

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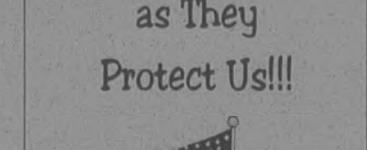
War seems inevitable today, but maybe we can find a better solution tomorrow and spend more time focusing on peace, love and happiness.

Wouldn't life be grand if we all could keep the outlook of a small child with our biggest worry being which toy we want to play with today?

It's easy for a celebrity figure to stand in front of a camera and say he/she wants to be a "human shield" for the Iraqi people. One celebrity, who is from Texas, even said she was ashamed that the president is from Texas (although she later publicly apologized for this remark).

My response to these and similar remarks is simple. The president, whether you like him or not, understands that the nation and world cannot rest easy until the threat of terrorism is demolished, and he has called upon the men and women of the United States military to carry out this mission. Therefore, if these celebrities want to be

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Cox,

I watched some of the news with Tom Brokaw last night with great interest in part. The tent the men and women were using for chapel. They were worshipping God. The news were faith in God or God in the fox hole. I was made to wonder if any back here at home were that concerned. There are many veterans who know first hand where they were citing.

The American Legion Post 42 has been and still seeking them to join up and be a Legionnaire. We have wanted to get enough to be in position to conduct a

funeral or at least be pall bearer should a veteran pass on. There is some ministers that have tried to get but they as well as others look at and still say the dance up there, closed it, so be it hopefully it is time to put that in the past and work toward post 42 being a great post of Legionnaires not a club of some king. Post 42 is not a one man show as some may have thought.

May 10, 2003 the Voice of Praise will sing from 7 p.m. until about 9. We invite you and yours about the early part. There will be a singing announced later. June 21, 2003 a singing

will be at the Legion hall by a group from Montgomery, Ala. I invite veterans to come join in and help post 42 be a host of Legionnaires working together. Much work has been done yet more is needed. Looking for Legionnaires not club members.

American Legion post 42
J.L. Edgar

SHARE YOUR VIEWS - WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

City of Elba to have 150th Birthday Celebration
Kick-off April 13th on the courthouse square

The City of Elba is 150 years old and the celebration has begun. The first event of the year will be held April 13 at 2 p.m. on the Courthouse Square. The City has always come together on various events and this celebration will not be different. The event is scheduled to begin with an ensemble community choir. Elba has been very fortunate to have a lot of angelic voices and some of the most talented people in the world.

April 13th is a great opportunity to come out and fellowship and enjoy the program planned and help Elba have a Happy Birthday. KICK-OFF Celebration This occasion is not one that you will want to miss. It will be a time in the history of Elba that every citizen will want to be a part of.

There will also be a short history lesson and words of inspiration. The Birthday Poem will be recited and our deployed

loved ones will be honored. Due to the state our country and economy, this is not the most pleasant time to celebrate, but after a hundred and fifty years a celebration is definitely in order. A Calendar of Events will be available.

For more details come out and be a part of this memorial event. You will be filled with excitement and expectation that will last a lifetime.

RELAY FOR LIFE
FUNDRAISER BY EGH AND NURSING HOME

The Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home Relay for Life Team will sponsor a yard sale on Saturday, March 29, 8 a.m. until - in the vacant lot across from the nursing home (between the offices of Dr. Roberts and Dr. Dyess).

Food items will be available, such as hot dogs, soft drinks, homemade cakes and other baked goods.

Other activities will include face painting and thumb print animals, and a drawing will be held for a gift certificate and/or cash.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. In the event of rain, the yard sale will be held inside the Elba Recreation Center on Claxton Avenue.

Soldiers Under God to hold Spiritual Warfare Conference

Soldiers Under God Ministries will present a Spiritual Warfare Conference. Featured guests will be Pastor John Hunt, Andalusia Full Gospel Tabernacle, Mrs. Rhonda Brooks, Westview Baptist Church.

Music will be provided by

St. Opp, at the Faith Tabernacle Christian Center. The conference is open to the public.

Sophia Caldwell, Keny Armstrong, Faith Tabernacle Praise Team, Andalusia Full Gospel Tabernacle Choir.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College to offer special interest course Driver Safety Program

Enterprise State Junior College's new special interest course, Driver Safety Program, is an AARP classroom driver improvement course specially designed for motorists ages 50 and older. Upon successfully completing the course, gradu-

ates of the program may be eligible to receive a discount on their auto insurance premiums. The course helps drivers refine existing skills and develop safe, defensive driving techniques. Program topics are vision and hearing changes, effects of med-

ication, reaction time changes, left turns and other right-of-way situations, new laws and how they affect you, and hazardous driving situations. Participants are required to attend both sessions to receive a certificate of completion. Cost per individual is \$10 and will be paid directly to AARP on the first class day, Wednesday, March 26. The second class day is March 27. Registration deadline is March 19. For more information call 393-ESJC, ext. 2234.

AU Turfgrass Research Unit hosts annual field day

Turfgrass and lawn care professionals from across the state can see firsthand how a hybrid Texas bluegrass performs in Alabama's climate during the 2003 Auburn University Turfgrass Field Day, set for Wednesday, April 2, at the AU Turfgrass Research Unit. The unit is located at the corner of South College Street and Shug Jordan Parkway in Auburn.

The field day is geared toward golf course superintendents, sports turf managers, sod producers, landscape professionals and lawn care specialists. Commercial pesticide applicators can earn 10 recertification points by attending.

The Texas bluegrass evaluation, which will help determine whether the grass has potential as an alternative to tall fescue in residential and commercial landscapes in Alabama, is one of 14 research projects that will be

spotlighted during the half-day event. Researchers also will present their latest findings on pre- and post-emergent control of annual bluegrass in bermudagrass, methyl bromide alternatives, and effective management strategies for bentgrass and for TifEagle and TifSport bermudagrass putting greens.

On-site registration begins at 7:30 a.m.; tours start at 8:30 and continue until lunch, which is included in the \$25 registration fee. For more information or to pre-register, contact Beth Gualtal at (334) 844-3999 or egualtal@acesag.auburn.edu.

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Note of Thanks

A true friend is a friend for life. Brothers and sisters in Christ are friends for eternity. Thank you for being my friends and prayer partners during the time of my surgery and recuperation.

May God bless you.
Evelyn Hocutt

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COVINGTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WILL SPONSOR 12 STUDENTS from local high schools to participate in the 2003 Alabama Rural Electric Association Youth Tour in Montgomery, Ala. Participants are shown above from left, front row: Patty Singleton, CEC employee; Judy Scott, Pleasant Home teacher; Jerri Bryan, Brantley; Kendra Majors, Brantley; Megan Young, Straughn; Megan Plaud, Kinston; Erin Foshue, Red Level; and Gloria Rayborn, Brantley guidance counselor. Second row from left: Jerome Parker, Red Level guidance counselor; Jennifer Barnes, Pleasant Home; Anna Erly, Pleasant Home; Hillary Sumblin, Kinston; Ali Taunton, Straughn; Myra Jordan, Red Level; and CEC employee Mark Parker.

Obituaries

CATHERINE REBECCA BRYAN SPURLIN

Mrs. Catherine Rebecca Bryan Spurlin, age 87, of 1027 Sunset Blvd., Elba, Ala., died March 13, 2003 in Montgomery. Funeral services were held March 15, 2003 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Andrew Smith officiating. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Spurlin was preceded in death by her husband, Fulton Spurlin, and a grandson, Will Brazleton.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Dyles Rushing, Montgomery, one grandson and granddaughter-in-law, Taylor and Kim Rushing, Boone, N.C., one granddaughter and grandson-in-law, Katie and Jimmy Spurlin, Birmingham, three great-granddaughters, Jessica Brazleton, Andalusia, Victoria and Rebecca Hodge, Birmingham; one great-grandson, Elliot Steinwinder, Birmingham. Memorials may be made to Alabama Baptist Childrens Home.

Center, Ozark, Ala.

Funeral services were held March 13, 2003 at Victoria Baptist Church with Rev. Donnie Marler officiating. Burial followed in Victoria Baptist Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife, Leola Lewis, Elba; one daughter, reaction time changes, left turns and other right-of-way situations, new laws and how they affect you, and hazardous driving situations. Participants are required to attend both sessions to receive a certificate of completion. Cost per individual is \$10 and will be paid directly to AARP on the first class day, Wednesday, March 26. The second class day is March 27. Registration deadline is March 19. For more information call 393-ESJC, ext. 2234.

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Survivors include one son

CHURCH & AREA NEWS



PRAISE AND GLORY WORSHIP CENTER, 419 South John Street in New Brockton, Ala., will be having a three day revival. The speaker will be Dewain Cook and his wife Barbara from Dothan, Ala. Dewain has ministered in Peru, Belgium, Romania, China, Haiti, The Philippines, Russia, and Mexico. He is currently serving as an associate to Paul A. Estes, Christ Church International, Dothan, Ala. Brother Cook and his wife, Barbara work as a team in the service of the Lord. They are known for their ministry to ministers. Services will be March 21 through the 23 with two services on Sunday. The times of service will be 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Sunday.



ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

Scripture: John 4:1-39

***Thinking of you, praying for you! Alan J. Belcher, Johnny Manning, Bettye English, Homer C. Coleman, Anna M. Daniels, John E. Folmar, Mattie Belcher, Earnest Ellison, Rev. Johnny Lawrence, Ella M. Brooks, Leo Henderson, Ruth Belcher, Versie Barnes and Mary Alice Blue. ***Bethlehem Baptist Church will hold Family and Friends Day on March 23, 2003 at 3:00 p.m.

NAACP Coffee County Branch #5017 to meet March 29 at St. Johns Chapel AME

NAACP Coffee County Branch #5017 will meet on March 29, 2003 at Johns Chapel AME, Enterprise, Ala. The executive members will meet at

ElBethel Baptist Church sponsoring **Magnificent Mondays** this month

ElBethel Baptist Church, Highway 27, Chancellors, Alabama is having Magnificent Mondays in March revival services each Monday night throughout the month of March. Dan Raley from First Baptist Church of Slocumb will be the

Gospel Singing to be held at Vanderbilt Holiness Church

Vanderbilt Holiness Church will have a Gospel Singing on Saturday, March 22, 2003, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The featured group will be "Williamsons & Friends" from Crestview, Florida. Everyone is invited to attend. Vanderbilt Holiness Church is located on Coffee County Road 114, 1 mile past Wayne Farms Southland. For more information call (334) 897-3778.

Annual Deacons Trustees & Wives Day program to be held at Poplar Springs

Poplar Springs Missionary Baptist Church of New Brockton, Ala. is holding its Annual Deacons, Trustees and Wives Day program on March 23, 2003 at 2:30 p.m.

Glenwood Assembly of God to host Gospel Sing

Glenwood Assembly of God Church will host a gospel singing Saturday, March 22, at 7 p.m. The featured guest will be The Gospel Valley Boys of Birmingham. Everyone is invited to attend.

Hebron Baptist Church to host **Canaan Land Quartet** at Gospel Singing

Hebron Baptist Church will hold a gospel singing on Saturday, April 12, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. The featured group will be the Canaan Land Quartet. The church is located near the Pike and Coffee County line on Highway 87.

Pleasant Ridge Church to hold **ole fashioned gospel singing**

An ole fashioned gospel singing will be held Saturday, March 29, at 7 p.m. at Pleasant Ridge Church near Victoria. Everyone is invited to attend.

ATTEND A CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

PASTOR'S CORNER

**Ken Harrison, Pastor
Westside Baptist Church**

The Secret of Peace

There is much conversation today about peace, and many formulas being peddled for peace by psychologists, therapists, success motivators and many others.

In the Bible we find one of the best formulas for peace in Philippians 4:6-9. This peace grows out of a relationship with God. God is often called the "God of Peace" in such passages as Romans 16:20 and Thessalonians 5:23.

The secret of peace given to us in Philippians 4:6-9 is based upon three things. First, you must pray right as found in verses 6 and 7. Prayer is talking with and listening to God. It grows out of the conviction that God who created the heavens and earth and who cares for the birds of the air will also care for us. One of the secrets to peace is prayer.

Second, we are to have peace we must think right. In verse eight we learn that if we think right we can be at peace in the midst of a storm or in deep sorrow or suffering. If we want peace, we must set our hearts and minds upon the highest moral and ethical values in life.

Third, the passage teaches us that if we are to have peace we must do right. Verse nine says, "those things, which you have both learned and received, and heard, and seen in me, do, and the God of peace shall be with you."

The Bible says "the way of the transgressor is hard." A peaceful heart and a wayward life do not come packaged together. We have a choice to make.

So, if you want peace you must pray, think right and do right. In these troubled times we would be well advised to follow this scriptural formula for peace.

New Life Worship Center will be in revival March 30 - April 2

New Life Worship Center will be in revival with the Johnson Family from Pensacola, Fla. starting on Sunday, March 30 - Wednesday, April 2, 2003. The service times are Sunday at 6:00 p.m. and Monday - Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Boating Safety Course offered at LBW-MacArthur Campus

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College - MacArthur Campus will offer a Boating Safety Course on Monday, April 7, 2003 and Tuesday, April 8, 2003. This course will be held from 6:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. each evening in the Conference Center Building.

This classroom course is approved by the Alabama Marine Police Division. Taking the boater certification course will enable participants to comply with the Alabama Boater Certification Law. Participants will also be eligible for a discount on their boat or PWC (jet ski) insurance with most providers.

Participants must be at least 12 years of age to enroll in the Boating Safety Course. There is no charge to attend this course. Boat Alabama training books will be provided for each participant. All six chapters of the

Elba Church of God to have revival services March 23-28

The Elba Church of God is having a revival March 23 through March 28. A special Christian Comedy routine and spaghetti dinner are planned for Friday's service. Every service will open at 7:00 PM. Jachin and Cindy Dardar from Louisiana. Born in 1954 and preaching from the age of 15. Rev. Dardar is no stranger to revival and the full gospel message. All are invited.

Salem-Enterprise District Brotherhood Revival planned for April 2-4

Salem - Enterprise District Brotherhood Revival will be held April 2-4, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. nightly. The revival will be held at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Enterprise, Ala.

Harris Temple Youth Department is hosting **Praise Rally**

Harris Temple Youth Department is sponsoring a youth praise rally on Saturday, March 29, 2003 at 5:30 p.m. at 747 Adams Street. Featuring community youth praise team, mime teams, music ministry and much more.

Men of Music and Elba High School FFA Quartet to be in concert at County Cathedral

Men of Music from Mobile, Ala. and the Elba High School FFA Quartet will be in concert Sunday, March 23, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. at County Cathedral located on Hwy 84 East out of Opp, Ala.

Boating Safety Course offered at LBW-MacArthur Campus

book will be covered. Participants will be given the opportunity to take the Alabama Boater Certification Exam. Participants who pass the boating certification test will receive a Boating Course Certificate of Completion from the Alabama Marine Police Division.

For more information or to register, please contact Lurleen B. Wallace Community College - MacArthur Campus at (334) 493-3573, ext. 244.



Miss Inman & Mr. Farabaugh

Miss Lee Inman & Mr. David Farabaugh to be united in marriage July 5

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Inman of Charlotte, N.C. announce the engagement of their daughter, Lee Bancroft, to David Richard Farabaugh. David is the son of Richard and Virginia Farabaugh of Indiana, Pa.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Louis and Emma Margaret Inman of Elba and Lillian and the late Paul J. Strong of Birmingham. She is a 1999 graduate of Wake Forest University and is employed as an account supervisor in Los Angeles, Calif.

The wedding will take place on July 5, 2003 at Blowing Rock Methodist Church in Blowing Rock, N.C.

EHS to have 8th Grade Parents Night April 3rd

Elba High School will have 8th grade parents night April 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. Parents and students should attend this meeting to discuss important issues concerning their child's education for grades 9-12.

Topics for discussion will be credits for graduation, advanced

Band Day Pageant to be held April 4

The annual Band Day Pageant will be held Friday, April 4, at 6 p.m. at the Elba High School auditorium. Future for Tiny Miss and Little Miss will be Sunday Dress for Jr. Miss and Miss - Formal Dress. Practice will be held Thursday, April 3, at 6 p.m. in the EHS auditorium.

Bradley's Florist & Gift Bridal Registry
Sara Slice and Chuck Miller
Valerie Presley and Josh Camley
Amanda Morgan and John Robinson
Jennifer Bryant and Chris Henderson
Hope Tillery and Bo Boyd
Offerings:
• Crystal Showers
• China & Silverware
• 897-3422

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Storybook Festival planned for May 3 in Andalusia

The Coterie Club of Andalusia will hold its 32nd annual Storybook Festival on Saturday, May 3rd at 2 p.m. at Robinson Park. This year's plays include The Little Mermaid, Hansel and Gretel, Three Billy Goats Gruff and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. There is an admission charge, and children under one are admitted free. Tickets will be available the day of Storybook or purchased locally from Brooks True Value Hardware. The Southeast Alabama Gas District or from any club member. Come early to enjoy face painting, balloons and refreshments.

MacHis Lower Creek Indian Tribe to meet March 23

A meeting for all the members of the MacHis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama will be held Sunday, March 23, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at the Tribal Office (102 East McKinnon Street, New Brockton, Ala.). The topics of discussion will be Federal Recognition, Humphries, Strickland lawsuit in Texas.

Update of the Native American farmers lawsuit, tribal update form, scholarship applications for college, and scholarship applications for high school students for leadership summer camp. For more information call (334) 894-6578, or email cscs@entercomp.com

Coffee County Pageants to be held for May 3 at Elba High School

Coffee County Pageants have been set for May 3, 2003 at Elba High School. The pageant, sponsored by the Coffee County Study Club is a preliminary for the National Peanut Festival Pageant. The pageant is open to any girls who reside in Coffee County or attend any private, public or county schools within Coffee County.

Orientation is set for March 30, 2003 at the Citizens Bank Community Room. Orientation for Little Miss and Miss contestants will be at 1:30 p.m. All other categories are set for 3:00 p.m. The categories are as follows:

Future Little Miss - 5&6 years old (Not yet in 1st grade)
Little Miss - First Graders only
Petite Miss - 7-10 years old
Pre-Teen Miss - 11-13 years old
Teen Miss - 14-16 years old
Miss - 17-21 years old
For further information contact Jennifer Gillye (334) 393-0752.

SouthTrust Bank -Elba having fundraisers for Relay For Life March 31- April 11

SouthTrust Bank, Elba, as a fundraiser for Relay For Life will be having an arts and crafts fair, silent auction and bake sale in the lobby of the bank beginning Monday, March 31, 2003, at 9:00 o'clock, and will continue until April 11, 2003 or until all items are sold. The silent auction will close out on April 11, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. Some items include an antique trunk and a new hand made out door lawn chair, original paintings and more items are expected for the silent auction. There will be more than 100 arts and craft items including wreaths, arrangements, wood art, candles, jewelry, angel dolls and many other different items. Most of the items will be hand made by employees, but many of the items donated will be donated by friends and relatives of cancer survivors as well as items in memory of a loved one that lost their battle with cancer. All proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Anyone waiting to donate items please call anyone at the bank for details, 897-2291.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College Entertainers to present Spring Show

The award-winning Enterprise-Ozark Community College Entertainers will present their Spring Show on Friday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Lurleen B. Wallace Student Center. Attendees may make a \$5.00 donation at the door. The Entertainers will present their competition music, show choir selections, rock and roll, gospel, inspirational, as well as blues and country styles in a fast-paced, choreographed concert. For the second half of the program they have selected a 1950's theme for costuming and most of the music. "We'd love to have everyone come join our party!" Entertainers faculty sponsor and director, Dr. Richard Snyder. For more information, call Dr. Snyder at 334-347-2623, ext. 2319.

EHS Band Day is planned for Saturday, April 5

The annual Elba Band Day will be held April 5, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on the square in downtown Elba.

Schedule of events is as follows: 9:45 - EHS 5th & 6th Grade Bands; 10:30 - Lois Pittman Line Dancing; 11:00 - Carl Brook; 11:30 - The Southside Shufflers; 12:00 - The Tiger Twirlers; 12:30 - Master's Call; 1:30 - EHS 5th and 6th Grade Bands; 2:00 - EHS Band. Barbecue plates will be available from the Senior Citizens Center beginning at 11 a.m. Tickets for these plates will be pre-sold. Drinks and desserts will also be available. Free lawn chairs should be brought for seating. Also, some merchants will have "Charity Chairs" to be bid for. Everyone is encouraged to come to the beginning and stay for the whole day to encourage the performers.

OPENING

MONDAY, MARCH 17

20/20 CAFE

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Mitch & Joyce Purvis & Family

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Don't Forget to



SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Vegetables have never been a popular item at the Mularz dinner table, but recently Melanie has acquired a taste for turnips and now considers the messy greens one of her favorite things to eat at school. She has always liked such things as rice, creamed corn and macaroni and cheese, but just where she acquired the taste for turnips is a mystery to me. Maybe she was really hungry one day at school and it was either eat or go hungry. Anyway, I imagine if she wants some more turnips she will have to check the menu at school, because I don't see them on our table at home.

SWINGS AND MISSES...

*** The Elba Tigers scored 27 runs in only two games last week to post big wins over Luverne and Abbeville to improve their record to 3-1 on the season and go 1-0 in area play. The Tigers managed to dodge the raindrops long enough on Tuesday night to down Luverne 13-6 and then on Friday blasted area foe Abbeville 14-4 to claim their third straight win. The Elba pitchers did a good job in both wins; however, the real stars of the wins were the Tiger hitters, as they batted over .500 in both games and knocked the baseball all over the park. Elba was expected to field a solid team this season, and since its opening loss to Brantley, it has lived up to its billing. There is still a long way to go, but the Tigers are rolling early and appear to be a team to watch in the area.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers remained unbeaten and upped their record to 8-0 last week with a wild 9-8 win over New Brockton. The Lady Tigers committed countless errors early on to fall behind 5-2 after four innings, but used a seven-run outburst in the fifth to regain the lead and held on late to claim the win over their cross-county rivals. Elba played perhaps its worst game of the season in the field, but the win did have a silver lining as the Lady Tigers showed a new weapon as Hannah Martin made her debut on the rubber and pitched four strong innings. Martin had good speed and location on her pitches, and her emergence should give Elba a solid 1-2 punch from the pitching position. Catcher Devri Kilcrease ripped a two-run homer early to give the Lady Tigers a lead, and the senior has been a leader both behind the plate and with a bat in her hands and is a true unsung hero after three weeks of play.

*** March Madness officially arrived for the college basketball fans last week with all the conference tournaments played across the nation, and this week the madness will reach a fever pitch as the NCAA tournament tips off. I am writing this column before the announcement of the pairings, but have to believe that the SEC will be well represented and has a solid contender in Kentucky. I don't look for Mississippi State, Auburn, LSU or even Florida to make much of a run through the tournament, and believe that the Cats from Lexington are the conference's only hope of a Final 4 participant. If Troy State can get a good draw the Trojans could steal a win, and the guys from up the road could actually make some noise. There is no doubt I will have to buy some new batteries for the remote control as I watch college basketball at its best in the days to come.

*** The Major League Baseball season is fast approaching and that means all of us Braves fans may have to get a roster to know the new faces on the team when the season opens. Atlanta left a number of veteran players slip away and this season will have a revamped pitching staff and some new position players. I do like to watch the Braves at night when I get a chance to relax and have to admit I think the changes may actually make the Braves a better team in 2003. Now, if Bobby Cox will do a little coaching.

*** In closing, the player drafts were held last week for the various youth leagues in baseball and softball and it continued to amaze me that parents try to manipulate the draft by sending word that their kids won't play for certain coaches. This year the draft was changed in that no team was allowed any assistant coaches until after all players had been picked, and that did make a difference since the head coaches couldn't claim any automatic picks due to sons and daughters of their assistants. The special requests were also ignored, and the coaches present took turns and chose their teams. I urge the parents to support their youngsters, let them play ball and stay out of any personality conflicts with the coaches. Hey, the games are for the players!

SUPPORT A PLAYER!

If anyone has a used glove or bat that they would like to donate to a youth baseball or softball player please call the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation at 897-6833 and it will be picked up.

Grab first area win

Elba Tigers batter Abbeville 14-4

The Elba Tigers scored 10 runs on the top of the first inning to take command and never looked back Friday afternoon as they pounded the Abbeville Yellow Jackets 14-4, in a key area contest in

Abbeville. The win lifted the Tigers' record to 3-1, 1-0 in area play, and was the third straight win for Elba after a season-opening loss.

Rick Smith ripped a three-run

homer to highlight the first inning fireworks for the Tigers, which banged out 21 hits in the lopsided win. Brandon Petty added 4 hits and added a solo home-run, while Ralston Moore also chipped in with a 4-hit per-

formance. Kyle English got the win for the Tigers as he pitched 3 2/3 innings, while striking out six and walking eight. Brandon Petty closed out the win on the mound.

Youth baseball and softball rosters are announced for upcoming 2003 season

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation held its youth baseball and softball rosters announced for the upcoming season:

BASEBALL

Tee-Ball Baseball

White Sox

Coach Jeff Reed

DaQuan Jordan, Bradley Weeks, Juandaris Reed, Austin McWaters, Braxton Robinson, Martavious Gray, Michael Smith, Avery Hunchey, Jala Smith, Christopher Echols, Miguel Banks, Tyndre Sistrunk, DaQuan Austin, Elijah Yelverton

Red Sox

Coach Daniel Stewart

James Wisdom, Shawn Carter, Grant Akridge, Marquavius Hall, Caleb Martin, David Bryant, Troy Funk, Ty Stewart, DeShawn Edwards, Kenneth Amison, Noah Sims, Jordan Kidd, Talon Flowers, Clayton Kelley

Giants

Coach Chris Danley

Zackery Odum, Azendi Thomas, Thomas Danley, David Ardis, Nicholas Johnson, Christopher Bayborn, Kaseum Nicholas, Logan Davis, Tanner Hudson, Brosnan Cooks, Harley Sanders, B.J. Free, Denzell Thomas

Coach-Pitch Baseball

Yankers

Coach Glen Johnson

Austin Johnson, Anpheme Canty, Stone Collins, Christopher Ellis, Stetson Blair, Jordan McDaniel, Cobe Senn, Eric Cole, Ashlee Senn, Octavious Bonham, Chance Johnson

Expos

Coach Greg Bailey

Timothy Reeves, Jon Ashley Amison, Logan Bailey, Matthew Marler, Justin Pope, Tyler Faulk, Hayden Disotell, Hayes Spicer, Brennan Schindler, Clark Logan, J. Cole Spicer

Indians

Coach Tim Whitfield

Kyson Edwards, Justin Kidd, John Gray, Steven Danley, Tyler Walsh, Chip Curtis, Darren Burks, Cory Richardson, Matt Winters, Ben Cash, Elijah Whitfield

Dixie Minor Baseball

Braves

Coach Steve Sauls

Branton Bowers, Thomas Cole, Jordan Williams, Seth Hunchey, Mason Davis, Ashton Davis, DaQuan Brown, Chace Sauls, William Hooks, Tyler Anderson, Chance Goosby, Antigeau Dixon, Dontia Rogers, Austin Lindsey, Jeremy Duncan

Reds

Coach Scott Kelley

Janzen Flowers, Joey Orr, Taylor Ellis, Sage Kelley, Gunnar McCollough, Dylan Seay, Waylon Craighead, Ryan Kelley, Connor Kelley, Chris Thompson, Devin Holloway, John Johnson, Isaac Nelson

Dixie Youth Baseball

Cardinals

Coach Wayne Jackson

Drew Ellis, Michael Spurlin, Robby Thrash, Justin Winters, Eithen Dodd, Devin Jackson, Jason Allen, Jonathan Bryan, Kyle Pope, Jordan McBride, Sandarius Reed, Jonathan Ellis

Pirates

Coach Mike McKee

Andrew Head, Jabari Cole, Aaron Drewery, Cody Sasser, Marshall George, Richard Cooks, D.J. McKee, Colton Vaughan, Brandon Byrd, Allen Dixon, Kyle Tankersley, Kevin Allen

Blue Jays

Coach Rhett McCollough

A.J. Sanders, Taylor Cotton, Alonzo Rodgers, Dylan McCollough, Johnathan Farmer, Brock Lambert, Wayne Hood, Bradley Wilson, Jamison Baker, Justin Mallory, Cameron Hall, Jonathan Kelley

Cannons

Coach Patrick Dewberry

Jesse Whitfield, Carrie Senn, Camrenda McGhee, Jacquetta Whitfield, Kewayne Gavin, Kendal Cole, Hannah Morin, Chastity Slenker, Emily Allen, Brianna Jackson, Summer Blackmon, Bethany Wilson, Silas Neele, Nicole Kilcrease, Canery Matthews, Elisa Dewberry

Dixie Ponytails Softball

River Bats

Coach Ronnie Caldwell

Kynu Coleman, Ashley Cooks, Brittany Chandler, Megan Sullivan, Keri Jones, Mercedes Stevens, Brandy Caldwell, Shelley Hutchison, Brittany Johnson, Youshuia Terry, Kiera Robertson, Latanda Tyson, Erica Daniels, Amanda Geddings, Richreanna Singletary

Red Wings

Coach Melinda Lee

Danielle Hawick, KaShundra Hardwick, Taylor Creel, Chessi Cross, Cortlin Lee, Maisie Thomas, Ashley Bailey, Megan Hudson, April Finedore, Robyn Anderson, Morgan Anderson, Brianna Rogers, Courtney Richardson, Jolo McBride, Meredith Brunson, Kolera Burrows

Note: Drafts yet to be held include

Dixie Boys Baseball, A.J. Pre-Majors Baseball, Dixie Majors Baseball, Tee-Ball Softball, Coach-Pitch Softball, Dixie Belles Softball and Dixie Debs Softball Leagues.

Any players wishing to play in these leagues will have until March 31 to register to be placed upon a team.

Any player wishing to play in a league that has already held its player draft will be placed on a waiting list and will be placed upon a team if space permits.

Gray carpet, rug & upholstery cleaning services

Ask about our every day SPECIALS That can save you money

Locally owned and operated to best serve you

Call today at 897-8411

Prep Baseball & Softball

DIAMOND DUST

Brantley rallies past Kinston 5-4

The Kinston Bulldogs continued their early season struggles last Tuesday afternoon with a 5-4 loss to the Brantley Bulldogs, in eight innings.

Devaris Skanes had two hits to lead Brantley and had the game winning single in the eighth inning, while Casey Hudson got the win on the mound. Jim Bedsole tossed a five-hitter and struck out seven batters to lead Kinston on the mound, while George Hamilton got four hits to lead Kinston at the plate and Matthew Wilkerson and Jason McInnis both added 2 hits.

Gamecocks are outscored 11-7

The New Brockton Gamecocks saw their record dip to 0-2 last week with an 11-7 loss to the Florala Wildcats, in New Brockton.

Florala took advantage of four early errors to jump out to an early 7-1 lead and owned a 9-3 advantage through five innings. However, the Gamecocks refused to quit and cut the deficit to 9-5 in the sixth behind the hitting of Randy Danford. Travis Slawson blasted a two-run homer in the seventh to pull New Brockton within 11-7, but it was as close as the Gamecocks could get as they dropped their second straight decision.

** Baseball ** Softball ** SCHEDULES

* BASEBALL *

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Elba at Opp (JV-V) 4:00

MONDAY, MARCH 24

Elba and Kinston in Arion Tournament

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

Elba and Kinston in Arion Tournament

* SOFTBALL *

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Abbeville at Elba (V) 4:00

Geneva County at Kinston (V) 4:30

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Elba in Trojan Classic, in Troy

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Elba in Trojan Classic, in Troy

SUPPORT HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

REMEMBER - EMPTY SEATS DON'T PAY THE BILLS!!

• We Custom Build in our shop Vinyl Windows

• Storm Windows & Replacement Windows & Glass

• Vinyl Siding Eave Overhanging

• Carpet & Patio Covers

Parker Metal Construction Co.

In Business For 40 Years

Now Accepting Applications

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments

3-Bedroom Townhouses

Units available for elderly, handicapped & disabled

Included FREE!

Water, sewage, garbage pick-up and pest control

On-site laundry facilities & playground for children

Office open Mon-Fri 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Equal Housing Opportunity

For more information on Legacy or the "Common Trees of Alabama" poster, please contact the Legacy office at P.O. Box 3813, Montgomery, AL 36109, (334) 270-5921 or visit the website at www.legacyenv.org.

Legacy, Partners in Environmental Education, is a not-for-profit organization working to create environmentally responsible Alabama citizens through education. All Legacy Environmental Education programs, including the "Common Trees of Alabama" poster, are made possible through the sale of the "Protect Our Environment" license tag, corporate and individual sponsorships and fund raising events.

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BEAVER DAM APARTMENTS

897-3517 • HIGHWAY 84 W. ELBA, AL

Eighth Grade Parents Night set for April 3 at Elba High

Elba High School will have 8th grade Parents Night, April 3, at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Parents and students should attend this meeting to discuss important issues concerning their child's education for grades 9-12.

Topics for discussion will be credits for graduation, advanced and standard diplomas, course selection, embedded credits, new graduation requirements, eligibility for extra-curricular activities and other to topics of interest.

Parents Night is an important meeting for you and your child. It is very essential for you to make every effort to attend.

Band Boosters need chairs for EHS Band Day

Band Day will be held Saturday, April 5, in Elba, and Band Boosters are asking for chairs that may be auctioned at the "Band Charity".

Any type of chair is acceptable, from stools and swivel benches and rockers. New chairs will be accepted, as well as old chairs with the potential to be reworked.

Anyone with a chair to donate, please contact Vicky Bailey at 897-3320, Rhonda Brunson at 897-3307, or Lynn Baker at 897-3813.

Also, anyone interested in painting or reworking a chair may contact the above-named persons.

The chairs began being displayed in the two local banks Monday, March 17, and bids will be accepted until Noon on April 5.

Other traditional activities to be held on Band Day include the sale of barbecue plates, "Jail for Bail," large garage sale and hand crafts throughout the day.

Elba and Kinston in Arion Tournament

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CITY OF ELBA QUALITY WATER REPORT

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you everyday. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we continually make to improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is Clayton Aquifer and we have four wells that we use to draw from the source. It pleases me to state that the City of Elba's drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements," said Mayor James Grimes. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Dennis Coleman at 334-897-2160. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Monday of every month following the Elba City Council meeting which is held at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall. The Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State Laws. The table below shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December

CLASSIFIEDS

The Elba Clipper

417 W. Buford St. • P.O. Box A
Elba, AL 36623-0257

TO PLACE AN AD

CALL 334-897-2823
FAX 334-897-3434
TOLL-FREE
1-888-216-8050

e-mail clipper@alaweb.com

DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.

We reserve the right

ERRORS

We strive to prevent errors in your ad, but any corrections necessary must be made immediately after first publication to insure proper credit.

PAYMENT

is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

COST

Only \$300* per week (first 15 words)

Prepaid personal ads get fourth week FREE! Bordered classifieds cost \$4.75 per column inch.

FOR SALE

1-100 TON GRAIN BIN and CONVEYER. Call 334-897-6850. 3-6-04.

FOR SALE: WHITE WICKER DAYBED WITH MATTRESS. Call 334-897-3320. 3-20-04.

FOR SALE: 2000 GE WHITE REFRIGERATOR. Excellent Condition. \$125.00. Call 897-1859. 3-13-04.

WATERLESS COOKWARE. Stopped doing parties? I have beautiful 17 pc 7-1/2" surgical stainless steel set. Lifetime warranty. Was \$2000. now \$695! First 7 callers buy set for 1993 price of \$568! Our 4th anniversary. Call 1-800-434-4628. 3-20-04.

RIVIERA MOTEL

897-2204

FOR SALE

STOVE \$200

REFRIGERATOR

26 Cu. Ft. - \$200

ACE HARDWARE & RADIO SHACK ELECTRONICS

•Paints •Tools

•Keys made •Plumbing

•Electronics •Guns

•Electrical Supplies

•Hunting & Fishing Supplies

•Hello Kitty School Supplies

•Packs Glue Glue Sticks

•Pencil Sharpeners, Paper, etc.

•Lawn & Garden Supplies

•Canning Supplies •Jars

•Lids •Etc.

•Snapper, Murrey & MTD Parts

•Dish Network •Free System

ELBA LAWFORD'S ACE HARDWARE

On The Square - Elba, AL - 897-2300

COMPUTERS

NEED A computer - credit not perfect? You're approved - guaranteed! No cash needed today! Bad credit ok! Checking or savings account required 1-877-572-2508. (R)

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

WHOLESALE TO public! Special factory purchase! Charlot Eagle - Park Model. Close-out! Save over \$10,000! Hurry - these units will sell fast! Marlin Ingram RV 1-800-500-1032

BUILDING MATERIALS

ENGINEERED STEEL buildings. Lowest prices in 10 years. Factory seconds, freight damaged & repos. Thousands off! All must go. No reasonable offer refused. 1-800-222-6335 (R)

WINTER INVENTORY

Clear-out! Best prices! 16x20, 30x46, 35x100. Big savings while supplies last! Great workshop/garages. Call 1-800-341-7-0-0-7. www.steelmasterusa.com (R)

SERVICES

RANDY'S SMALL MOTORS

Parts, Sales & Service

331 Court Street

897-5168

YARD SALES

3 FAMILY YARD SALE - SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Cedar Lane Drive, Last House On Left. 3-20-04

SERVICES/PERSONALS

Now Arriving

Spring Bedding Plants

The Plant Place

5000 Shiloh

897-6935

3.5 Miles N. of Elba on Brantley Hwy

BRINKMEIER PAINTING INTERIOR/EXTERIOR & DRYWALLING. 15 Years Experience. Call 347-3480 or 790-0170. 2-13-04

DUMP TRUCK BACKHOE & Tractor Service. Top Soil & Fill Dirt. (334)897-1685 or (334)308-7550. Jonas Nieschik. 8-22-04

LOCAL PHONE service includes unlimited nationwide long distance. One bill, keep same phone number. \$29.50 per month. Use global ID# 594113119, call 1-877-392-3548. 3-13-04

SANDBLASTING & PAINTING. No Jobs Too Small. Jonas Nieschik. 334-308-7550 or 334-897-0871. 3-13-04

ELBA INSULATION CO. Residential or commercial. Batts or blown-in. Fiberglass insulation. Call Earl Yates. 897-3630. 4-11-04

BAKER'S TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL. 23 years of experience. FREE ESTIMATES. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. 897-3426. 3-20-04

WILL DO HOUSE CLEANING, YARDWORK. Call 897-1251. 3-16-04

NEED TO advertise statewide? ALA-SCAN can place your 25 word ad in 114 newspapers across Alabama for only \$15. Additional words \$7.50 each. Make one call to this newspaper (a participating ALA-SCAN member) to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide! (R)

FINANCIAL SERVICES

LEADING FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Approving Small Business Mortgage and Vehicle Loans.

Immediate Response Give Us A Call at 1-866-899-1559. \$5 Million available to lend. First time homebuyers, business credit purchase/refinancing, foreclosure buydowns/buyouts. All real estate transactions considered. Call Kirby 1-888-280-0754. Money must be used by 4/30/2003.

ALABAMA HOME EQUITY - S Refinance 1st mortgage. 3.99% consolidation. Loans from \$50,000 - \$500,000 (example: \$50,000 \$525/mo.). Slow credit plan. Previous bankruptcy OK. No mobile homes. 1-800-239-6824.

SAVE UP TO \$75 on monthly bill. FREE. no pre-paid debt help. Be treated with honesty, understanding & respect. CarOne, 1-800-725-9220 (toll-free) www.carone.net (R)

ATTENTION - INEXPERIENCED credit start your new career today. Openings available with major carriers. Financing available. Call 1-888-703-7483. (R)

AVON - ENTREPRENEUR wanted. Must be willing to work whenever you want to be your own boss and enjoy unlimited earnings. Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053. (R)

CATCH UP on the flip flop. CFI is now hiring company owner/operators. Single and team. Leads with miles available immediately! Ask about our spouse-training program. Call 1-888-443-DRIVE. www.cfidrive.com (R)

DEDICATED RUNS available. Owner operators and company drivers. Home every weekend guaranteed! Van & flatbed 1 year exp. Call Rick at 1-800-443-0261. 3-13-04

DRIVER - COVENANT Transport. Now hiring experienced teams, solos and trainers. Owner/operators - no franchise. No CDL, no problem. We school. Give us a call to find out about our training center. Authorized by the TN Higher Education Commission. Call 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729). (R)

DRIVER - FREIGHTS moving! Flatbed drivers needed. Sign-on bonus, home based, no weekends. Meals, lodging, transportation. 6 months experience required. M-F 7a-5p. Sat. 8a-12p. 1-800-441-4271, ext. 838. (R)

DRIVER - INDEPENDENT contractors/flatbed experience needed. Over \$1.00/mile, loaded/empty. Time, fuel, base plate, insurance programs. Flatbed discounts. Southeastern freight. Hornady 1-800-441-4271, ext. 838. (R)

DRIVER - O/O exp. 95c cpm. Lease purchase available. Aggressive fuel surcharge. Sign-on bonus. Fuel bonus. 5 days a week. Monday-Friday, E.O.E.

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610 Baton Rouge Street

New Orleans, LA 70113

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800-860-9112

311-1111

GOVERNMENT POSTAL jobs. Up to \$47,578. Now hiring. Full benefits, training and retirement. For application and info. 1-800-573-8355, dept. 9255, 8 a.m.-11 p.m. 7 days (R)

HELP WANTED

WANTED: EXPERIENCED SHORT ORDER COOK. New 2020 CAFE. Contact Dr. Purvis After 5:00 PM. 897-4952 or Laura 897-1253 During Day. 3-13-04

EXPERIENCED PERSON TO Pick Up Eggs. 527-3450. 3-13-04

THE COFFEE COUNTY FSA OFFICE IN NEW BROOKTON, ALABAMA is now accepting written quotations from interested parties for seasonal drying for aerial photography. Call Coffee County for more information. 3-13-04

AITS: ELBA. Postal positions. Clerks/carryers/sorters. No exp. required. Benefits. For exam, salary, and testing information, call 630-393-3032. Ext. 5123. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 7 days. 3-20-04

PERMANENT POSITIONS AVAILABLE - H.B. Paulk Company is currently looking for experienced warehouse operators. Candidates should possess a strong work ethic, positive attitude, and have a desire to succeed at what-ever they do. We offer competitive basic salary, medical insurance benefits, superior performance pay reviews, paid vacation, and have a strong and growing company. Applications are available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday at our distribution facility located on 601 East Hwy. 52 Opp. Alabama. H.B. Paulk is an Equal Opportunity and a Drug Free Employer. 3-20-04

ATTENTION - CDL DRIVERS/TRAINEES. Due to our continued growth, H.B. Paulk Grocery Company is now accepting applications for qualified Class-A CDL drivers and driver trainees. If you consider yourself a driven professional, possess a clean driving record, and have a strong and growing company, then we want to talk with you. All CDL drivers & trainees must be 21 years of age and hold a competitive pay-rate benefits package, and you'll be at home with your family every night. For more information, contact Lamar Harrison at 334-493-3255 or drop by and talk with us in person at our warehouse/apartment located at hbk1vfbhbjk1 or bjbjnar 601 East Highway 52, Opp. Alabama. H.B. Paulk is an equal opportunity employer. 3-20-04

15 DAY CDL training. No money down if qualified. Possible 40k first year. Unemployed/drop off. Tuition paid if it suited. Job placement assistance. Call 1-866-432-0430. 3-20-04

ATTENTION - GROWING company needs help. Work from any location. Make \$55 now. Free training. Get free booklet 1-800-318-1621 or www.makewallet.net

ALABAMA HOME EQUITY - S Refinance 1st mortgage. 3.99% consolidation. Loans from \$50,000 - \$500,000 (example: \$50,000 \$525/mo.). Slow credit plan. Previous bankruptcy OK. No mobile homes. 1-800-239-6824.

SAVE UP TO \$75 on monthly bill. FREE. no pre-paid debt help. Be treated with honesty, understanding & respect. CarOne, 1-800-725-9220 (toll-free) www.carone.net (R)

ATTENTION - INEXPERIENCED credit start your new career today. Openings available with major carriers. Financing available. Call 1-888-703-7483. (R)

AVON - ENTREPRENEUR wanted. Must be willing to work whenever you want to be your own boss and enjoy unlimited earnings. Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053. (R)

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DEDICATED RUNS available. Owner operators and company drivers. Home every weekend guaranteed! Van & flatbed 1 year exp. Call Rick at 1-800-443-0261. 3-13-04

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ATTENTION - CDL DRIVERS/TRAINEES. Due to our continued growth, H.B. Paulk Grocery Company is now accepting applications for qualified Class-A CDL drivers and driver trainees. If you consider yourself a driven professional, possess a clean driving record, and have a strong and growing company, then we want to talk with you. All CDL drivers & trainees must be 21 years of age and hold a competitive pay-rate benefits package, and you'll be at home with your family every night. For more information, contact Lamar Harrison at 334-493-3255 or drop by and talk with us in person at our warehouse/apartment located at hbk1vfbhbjk1 or bjbjnar 601 East Highway 52, Opp. Alabama. H.B. Paulk is an equal opportunity employer. 3-20-04

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2002 MUSTANG - pw & l, tile, cruise, low mileage



2000 CHEV TRACKER 4 X 4 - AT-4 - loaded - great buy



2002 CHEV TRAILBLAZER LS - local trade - like new



2002 CHEV VENTURE VAN LS - under factory warranty



1997 Z 71 EX CAB SILVERADO - leather, CK Cass All Power - only 59K - like new



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The Elba Clipper

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50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 27, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Elba Council hears request to clean up Mulberry - stop beer sales in neighborhood

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Two local citizens appeared before the Elba City Council Monday night asking for help in cleaning up Mulberry Heights and protesting the issuance of off premise beer licenses to two Martin L. King Drive businesses.

The City Council has held public hearings and approved the state issuing a license to Gray's Grocery on Martin L. King Drive. An application is pending for Timothy Blue dba Stop Game Room, at 1306 Martin L. King Drive.

Renee Turner and Mary Coleman each addressed the above mentioned issues. Mrs. Turner led off the discussion, thanking the city for the levee work, but wanting to know when area citizens could expect to see the work completed and again see Martin L. King Drive reopened to traffic.

She noted that some citizens in the area depended on someone else picking them up for doctor appointments and shopping trips and the closed road was handicapping these people. No exact date could be given, but City Clerk Wayne Grantham noted it was originally scheduled to be closed for eight to nine weeks. With the recent rain delays, that time could stretch to ten or twelve weeks, Grantham explained.

Trash clean up of the Mulberry Heights area was mentioned, but most of the discussion was spent on other issues.

Mrs. Turner also complained about the men and teenagers

hanging around on the street corners, drinking beer, doing (and selling) drugs, etc. She asked for police help in eliminating, or at least curtailing this activity.

Both ladies voiced complaints about a pending retail beer license application for a game room, "within ten feet of a school bus stop." Mayor James Grimes suggested it might be possible to get the school bus to move around the corner before picking up or dropping off students. The ladies indicated they didn't feel the license should be issued at all, considering its closeness to a residential area with many young children. "Let them go downtown, or somewhere else, to get their beer," said the ladies.

Turner read extensively from studies showing disadvantages of alcohol, both to children and adults.

Mayor Grimes presented budget figures to council members. He pointed out a very positive number in the local sales tax received at \$314,623.

"This is the first time since I have been in office that sales tax receipts actually exceeded budget expectations," the mayor said with a broad smile.

This number is about 4%, or \$12,570, above predictions for the first five months of the fiscal year, indicating the local economy is bucking national trends in a positive manner.

The bottom line on expendi-

tures shows the city over budget in spending by about \$100,000 but these totals are deceptive. A line-by-line review shows that

debt retirement accounts for about \$80,000 of that amount due to paying the annual FHA sewer loan payment in one lump sum earlier in the year.

The police department expenses also exceed budget by roughly \$30,000. Eleven thousand of that is in salaries and the balance mostly in

supplies and building maintenance.

Council members approved the signing of a grant application for an 80-20 matching grant for a new van to be used at the senior citizens center.

In other business the council approved a wholesale beer license for Montgomery Beverage Co.

As Hyundai distributor plans to locate in Enterprise

Coffee County Commission offers support in preparing site

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the regular bimonthly meeting, the Coffee County Commission offered its support Monday morning, March 24, to the City of Enterprise in its efforts to prepare a site for the new Hyundai supplier that will so locate within the Yancey Parker Industrial Development Park.

Enterprise Mayor Tim Alford addressed the commission Monday morning, and he said the city needs the help of the commission in preparing a site for HSR&A which recently announced it will be locating in Enterprise. Alford said the company is now being referred to as HSA (HS Automotive Alabama).

"We are on a fast track in order to be ready," Alford said. "We request the county assist us with manpower and equipment to prepare the site."

He said if work such as removing the top soil and preparing the area for construction is done by local manpower, then approximately \$200-250,000 can be saved for the taxpayers.

Alford said he believes this is important for the county and the support of the commission would help show that Coffee County is ready for business and can make these kind of things happen.

"We are all proud of our industries in Coffee County," commission chairman Robert Stephens said. "We have the lowest unemployment rate in Southeast Alabama and would like to keep it that way."

Commissioner Jim Thompson made a motion to assist the City of Enterprise with the site preparation for HSA. His motion



REPLACING OLD PIPES...Part of the continued levee rehabilitation project includes replacing drainage pipes within the levee, and this is currently being done to parts of the levee. As can be seen in the picture above, a portion of the levee located at the end of Putnam Street in Elba was left open Tuesday morning, March 25, as workers prepared to replace the pipes. The photograph shows the old pipes crumbled in front of the trench which was created to place the new pipes, shown to the left. It is easy to see that the new pipes appear to be made of much better materials and should leave citizens feeling confident they will provide better flow for draining water. As for the overall project, workers were busy moving dirt again this week as the dry weather gave them an opportunity to get a lot of work done.

received a second from commissioner Bernest Brooks and passed by a unanimous vote (commissioner Doug Dalrymple was not present for the meeting due to a death in the family).

County administrator Wilson Mobley informed commissioners of a need to upgrade the county's software system.

He said the county purchased its current software system from DBS (Data Base System) about four years ago, and he said the company recently said it will no longer maintain that system after Dec. 2004.

Mobley said the company is going to upgrade to Windows based software, and it is going to cost the county just under \$25,000 to have DBS install the upgrade on the current system. However, he said the company Intuit has a better price because it will install a new system for \$25,000.

"We are going to have to change our system and upgrade," Mobley said. "I think DBS is gouging us with their price."

He said he could see paying around \$6,000 for an upgrade but certainly not \$25,000 when another company will install a new system for basically the same amount.

Commission votes to close Mulberry Heights voting house

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Commissioners voted Monday, March 24, during their regular bimonthly meeting to preclude a couple of voting house changes with the United States Justice Department.

Commission chairman Robert Stephens represents the people of District Three, and he said he has often been approached by

Commissioner Tom Grimsley made a motion with a second from commissioner Kayo Lewis to go with Intuit since it has the backing of the county administrators association; however, commissioner Linda Westbrook felt an amendment was necessary for this motion.

In her amendment, which received a second from Brooks, she asked for Mobley to talk with DBS first to see if the company would be willing to lower its upgrade price to \$6,000. If not, the county will purchase the system from Intuit.

Both the amendment and the original motion passed by a unanimous vote.

In regards to the delinquent garbage fees in which the commission has been discussing for quite some time now, Stephens said the county has managed to collect several more of the delinquencies.

"We're getting in good shape," he said. "I have spoken with officials from other counties, and they said they only wish their numbers were as low as ours."

In other business, the commission:

* Approved a motion to allow the City of Enterprise to use six voting machines in an upcoming

voters in Mulberry Heights to close the voting house at the old school and provide a better facility. Therefore, Stephens recommended and made a motion to close the Mulberry Heights voting house to allow these voters to vote at the Elba Recreation Center which is the main voting spot for District Three.

The recreation center is within 1/4 mile of the Mulberry Heights school, and Stephens said he feels this will better serve the people of District Three with a better facility for every voter in the district.

"So many people had asked me to move that voting house in Mulberry Heights," Stephens said. "These voters are all in the same district, and the move will now have them all in the same

beat."

Commissioner Bernest Brooks, who offered a second to Stephens' motion, also has some knowledge of the poor condition of the Mulberry Heights building, so he agreed the change will be good for the voters. He said he also feels the voters will be better served at the recreation center where the facility is in much better shape with a working restroom.

County administrator Joe Cassidy made sure the commissioners were aware that other voting changes might be required; therefore, he recommended all commissioners look at their district so he can combine all changes in one document to send to the justice department for clearance.

Many of these changes were a direct result of the redistricting of Coffee County's voting area.

election. The City will bare any costs incurred from using the machines.

* Approved a motion to accept the bid from Genint Consultants for the county's computer hardware. The "bid" amount was \$23,083.20 and was the only one received.

* Reappointed Dr. James Paulk and Dale Moseley to another term with the Coffee County Public Water Board.

* Approved a motion to transfer an unused vehicle from the sheriff's department inventory to the Zion Chapel Senior Center inventory. The vehicle, which used to be driven by the county jail administrator before he purchased a new vehicle, will be used as a backup vehicle by the senior center.

* Approved a motion to take Coffee County Road 359 off priority for paving and put it back into its former slot on the county's dirt road paving list. The road had been moved to priority because of a grant the county was going to receive, but Commissioner Linda Westbrook said the county did not receive the grant after all. She said some money may still come in for this project, but it will not be enough to keep the road in a priority slot.

By a unanimous vote, the commission approved closing the Mulberry Heights voting house and moving those voters to the Elba Recreation Center providing this gets the approval of the U.S. Justice Department.

While on the subject of voting houses, Commissioner Linda Westbrook mentioned a problem in New Brockton where in the past the District One voters have been forced to come to Elba to vote. Now, she said all of New Brockton falls in District One, and she wanted the commission to approve the use of the old District Two voting spot in New Brockton for the District One voters.

This matter was also approved by a unanimous vote to be precluded with the justice department.

County administrator Joe Cassidy

made sure the commissioners were aware that other voting changes might be required; therefore, he recommended all commissioners look at their district so he can combine all changes in one document to send to the justice department for clearance.

Many of these changes were a direct result of the redistricting of Coffee County's voting area.

Area Happenings

THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, April 3, at 7 p.m. at the board of education office in Elba.

THE ELBA BAND BOOSTERS will sponsor the 2003 Elba High School Band Day on Saturday, April 5, beginning at 9 a.m. There will be plenty of activities for the whole family to enjoy.

THE ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY will hold a book sale April 7-12 during regular operating hours. Any donations for the sale will be accepted.

ALABAMA'S CAREER CENTER SYSTEM offers seminars available for DBS Prep, tutoring, mentoring, resume writing, career skills training, work experience program, information and referral to new colleges, finding assistance under tuition-free college and much more. For more information contact Penny Brinkley, 601-378-1100 or Anita Pollock at 363-1285.